2: McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948
NE6 Bellacoola NE6

realm above. The method of escape and the rites that occur during his absence do not differ from those previously described for other Cannibals, and the means taken to capture him on his return are likewise similar. But soon after dusk a rite occurs which has not been previously recorded. The *kukusiut* assemble on the sidewalk outside X's house, each carrying a torch made of resinous wood, liberally smeared with gum and rendered more inflammable with frayed cedar-bark. X himself, well guarded, is escorted to the middle of the group, while a herald calls out that he is going to make what he has consumed fly upward. In his arms he carries what appears to the uninitiated, watching from a distance, to be a dead dog; in reality, it is a dog skin, stuffed with eagle down. Four times he turns around, uttering his cry of *xwa·*, *xwa·*, *xwa·*, while his men call out *i* ···· and the women drone. Then, in some way, the down-filled dog-skin is thrown upwards and disappears. One informant had seen this done in his youth, but was unaware of the method employed. The group then disperses and X is taken back to his own house.

About midnight a herald goes to every house, summoning the *kukusiut*, and especially the singers, to X's. They practise a new song for the Cannibal, and towards dawn it is sung as the "running song" previously described, accompanied by the weird *xwa·*, *xwa·*, *xwa·*. At day-break, a *kusiut*, chosen for the purpose because he is a fleet runner, pounds at the door of every house, and calls out:

"Come to eat dried salmon," and dashes on to the next.

Thus invited, the *kukusiut* duly assemble in X's house for a meal.

For four days X remains concealed on his platform, except when, aroused to fury, he makes a tour of the village; and except when making his nightly circuit, during which the frightened uninitiated cover their heads with blankets, fearing that he will smell their breath and devour them. On the fourth day X is carried to the river and washed, in spite of his struggles. While this is taking place a number of *kukusiut* visit